



## Speech & Language Services at St. Serra Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### 1. Where are speech services provided on campus?

Speech sessions are held in the speech office located in the library.

### 2. How long are sessions?

Sessions are typically 30 minutes, once or twice per week. For younger students, sessions may be shortened to 20 minutes, if appropriate.

### 3. When are sessions held? Do you offer after school services?

Sessions are most often held during the school day. The speech therapist works closely with teachers to determine the best time, with the goal of minimizing missed core instruction. Therefore, sessions are often scheduled during specialties (e.g., P.E., Music, Art, Creativity Lab, Library, etc.).

Students may also have input regarding scheduling and what class time is missed. Students will not miss the same specialty more than once per week.

After-school sessions are typically available on Minimum Day Wednesdays only.

### 4. How much is an individual session vs. a buddy session (2 students)?

Individual sessions are \$70 per session and buddy sessions are \$50 per session. Please see the attached [Service Fees](#) document for any additional fee questions.

### 5. How do I get a screening? Is there a fee?

Email [speechologie@gmail.com](mailto:speechologie@gmail.com) to request a screening and attach the [Permission to Screen Form](#). There is no fee.

### 6. Do you accept insurance?

No. However, a Statement for Insurance Reimbursement ("Superbill") is sent monthly with your invoice. Families may submit this documentation to their insurance carrier for possible reimbursement. Speechologie is considered an out-of-network provider.

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## 7. How long will my child be in speech?

Every child is different, so there is no exact timeline for speech therapy. Progress depends on several factors, including:

- The type and severity of the speech or language difficulty
- Your child's age and developmental readiness
- Consistency of attendance and home practice
- Underlying factors such as hearing, oral structure, attention, or motor planning
- Motivation and participation during therapy

Some children may need only a few months of support, while others benefit from therapy over several years. As skills improve, therapy frequency is often reduced before dismissal. Regular communication with the speech therapist can help you understand progress and expected timelines.

## 8. How do I know if my child needs speech?

Children develop at different rates, but there are general milestones we expect for speech and language development.

**By age 7, most children should:**

- Produce all speech sounds correctly or with very minimal errors
- Be nearly 100% intelligible to both familiar and unfamiliar listeners
- Communicate clearly in conversation
- Use age-appropriate grammar and vocabulary

**A speech and language evaluation may be helpful if your child:**

- Is difficult to understand for their age
- Frequently substitutes or omits sounds
- Becomes frustrated when communicating
- Has trouble following directions or expressing thoughts clearly
- Stutters or struggles to get words out smoothly
- Has a hoarse, nasal, or unusual voice quality
- Is falling behind academically due to communication difficulties

If you are unsure, a screening or evaluation by a licensed speech-language pathologist can help determine whether support is needed. You can find updated developmental speech sound norms here: [Speech Sound Developmental Norms \(ASHA\)](#).

## 9. Do you work on social skills?

Yes, speech therapy may also address social communication (pragmatic language) skills, such as: conversational turn-taking, staying on topic, reading social cues, perspective-taking, and building peer relationships. These skills can impact both academic and social success.

